

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 /089 W

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P R 171645Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4625

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USEC BRUSSELS 1977

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1187

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SP

SUBJECTT: FOREIGN FREE TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS CONTINUE TO VISIT SPAIN

REF: A) MADRID 0272; B) MADRID 0798; C. USEC BRUSSELS 1282;  
D. LONDON 1993

SUMMARY: FOREIGN TRADE UNION VISITS TO SPAIN DURING PAST TWO WEEKS  
INCLUDED FRENCH CFDT DELEGATION, IMF AND IG METALL DEOCQATION, AND  
VISIT TO BASQUE PROVINCES OF ICFTU ASST. SEC GEN. FORTHCOMING  
VISITS INCLUDE GERMAN DGB DELEGATION, JUST-ANNOUNCED BRITISH TUC  
DELEGATION, AND POSSIBLE MAY VISIT BY UAW'S LEONARD WOODCOCK.

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END SUMMARY

1. IN ADDITION TO RECENT JAN 30-FEB 1 VISIT TO SPANISH BASQUE PROVINCES OF ICFTU ASST SEC GEN VANDERVEKEN AS GUEST OF SMALL BUT GROWING BASQUE STV ILLEGAL TRADE UNION (REF C), EARLY FEB ALSO WITNESSED TWO OTHER FOREIGN TRADE UNION VISITS TO SPAIN, E.E. BY (A) FRENCH CFDT, AND (B) COMBINED INTL METALWORKERS FEDERATION (IMF) AND WEST GERMAN IG METALL DELEGATION.

2. FRENCH CFDT DELEGATION WAS IN SPAIN FEB 2-7, LED BY CFDT METALWORKER SEC GEN JACQUES CHERECQUE AND CFDT INTL AFFAIRS SEC GEN RENE SALANN. HOSTING DELEGATION WAS ILLEGAL SPANISH CHRISTIAN "SOCIALIST" USO, WHICH MAINTAINS CLOSE TIES WITH CFDT. DURING VISIT, CFDT DELEGATION, INTER ALIA, MET WITH 600 USO MEMBERS IN A MADRID CONVENT, SENT SOME OF ITS MEMBERS TO VALLADOLID TO LOOK INTO STRIKE AT RENAULT AUTOMOBILE PLANT, AND HELD PUBLIC PRESS CONFERENCE IN A MADRID LAW OFFICE. PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANT COMMENTS OF CFDT LEADERS AT PRESS CONFERENCE WERE: (A) CFDT WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT USO'S APPLICATION TO JOIN ETUC (WHICH APPLICATION RIVAL SPANISH SOCIALIST UGT IS DOING EVERYTHING TO BLOCK), AND (B) CFDT IN PRINCIPLE FAVORS SPANISH TRADE UNION UNITY BUT BELIEVES ACHIEVEMENT SUCH UNITY IS LONG-TERM GOAL WHICH MUST REST ON SOLID BASE, AND THUS PRESENT SITUATION IS ONE FOR "UNITY-OF-ACTION" TACTICS BUT NOT FOR ANY ORGANIC UNITY ATTEMPTS. A SMALLER SEPARATE CFDT DELEGATION HAS ALSO BEEN TOURING PROVINCIAL CITIES AS GUESTS OF USO DURING PAST TWO WEEKS.

3. EUGEN LODERER, PRESIDENT OF BOTH IMF AND WEST GERMAN IG METALL TRADE UNION, WAS IN MADRID FEB 4-8 HEADING A DELEGATION AS GUESTS OF TWO IMF SPANISH AFFILIATES, I.E., UGT AND USO. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED

BY IMF SEC GEN HERMAN REBHAN, BACK IN MADRID FOR HIS SECOND VISIT WITHIN A MONTH (REF A). LODERER ALSO GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE IN MADRID HOTEL, DURING WHICH HE SAID (A) MUCH HAD CHANGED IN SPAIN SINCE FRANCO'S DEATH BUT THERE WAS STILL A LONG WAY TO GO; (B) IMF'S TWO SPANISH AFFILIATES STILL HAD TO STRUGGLE IN CLANDESTINITY BUT SHOULD NOW COME FORWARD IN FULL PUBLIC VIEW; AND (C) HE ALSO FAVORED EVENTUAL GOAL OF SPANISH TRADE UNION UNITY.

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4. AT REBHAN'S REQUEST, LABOR ATTACHE MET WITH REBHAN TWICE DURING VISIT. AMONG REBHAN'S OBSERVATIONS WERE: (A) DELEGATION HAD MET SEPARATELY WITH USO AND UGT AS WELL AS WITH WORKERS FROM MADRID COMPANIES, INCLUDING CHRYSLER, JOHN DEERE, AND GERMAN ROBERTO BOSCH COMPANY, INVOLVED IN JUST-CONCLUDED STRIKE WAVE; (B) LODERER HAD ALSO HELD VERY PRODUCTIVE INTERVIEW WITH SOCIALIST PSOE LEADER FELIPE GONZALEZ; (C)

LODERER TURNED DOWN REQUEST BY COMMUNIST WORKERS COMMISSIONS  
LEADER MARCELINO CAMACHO TO MEET WITH HIM (SUPPOSED CAMACHO  
OVERTURE LATER TURNED OUT TO BE AN EFFORT BY JOURNALIST  
ACTING ON HIS OWN TO GET TWO TOGETHER TO CREATE NEWS STORY);  
(D) LODERER SAW FONMIN AREILZA AT LATTER'S REQUEST, AFTER  
FIRST ASCERTAINING FROM FELIPE GONZALEZ, USO, AND UGT, THAT  
SUCH A MEETING WOULD NOT PREJUDICE ILLEGAL DEMOCRATIC  
SPANISH OPPOSITION AND AGREEING TO TAKE TOUGH LINE WITH  
FONMIN IN DEMANDING TRADE UNION AND POLITICAL FREEDOMS;  
(E) DELEGATION DID NOT MEET WITH GOVT-CONTROLLED SPANISH  
SYNDICAL ORGANIZATION (SSO), BUT LODERER WAS BRIEFLY  
INTRODUCED TO CARLOS IGLESIAS SELGAS, ONE OF MOST  
LIBERAL SSO LEADERS, AT GERMAN EMBASSY COCKTAIL  
PARTY; (F) INTERVENTION BY REBHAN DURING VISIT HELPED  
TERMINATE TWO-MONTH OLD STRIKE AT MADRID JOHN DEERE FACTORY,  
THROUGH PHONE CALLS TO UAW AND TO JOHN DEERE HQS IN  
MOLINE, ILLINOIS (REBHAN SAID HIS AND UAW'S INTERVENTION  
WITH CHRYSLER FOLLOWING REBHAN'S EARLIER VISIT HAD  
ALSO BEEN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN BRINGING ABOUT STRIKE  
SETTLEMENT AT CHRYSLER'S SPANISH PLANT); AND (G) CONFIR-  
MATION OF PREVIOUS REPORT BY UGT LEADER PABLO CASTELLANO  
(REF B) THAT UAW PRESIDENT LEONARD WOODCOCK HAD BEEN  
INVITED VISIT SSPAIN, AND EXPRESSION OF HOPE BY REBHAN THAT  
WOODCOCK WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A TWO-DAY VISIT TO MADRID  
ENROUTE TO IMF'S MID-MAY WORLD AUTOMOTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
IN GERMANY.

5. COMMENT: CONTINUATION OF FREE TRADE UNION VISITS TO  
SPAIN IS RECEIVING SUBSTANTIAL PUBLICITY. THERE IS AN  
ELEMENT OF COMPETITION BETWEEN VARIOUS NON-COMMUNIST  
ILLEGAL TRADE UNIONS OVER VISITS. THUS CFDT VISIT WAS  
ENTIRELY DESIGNED TO BOOST PRESTIGE OF USO, LODERER IMF/IG  
METALL VISIT PRIMARILY BENEFITTED SOCIALIST UGT AND  
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ITS AFFILIATED PSOE POLITICAL PARTY EVEN THOUGH  
LODERER ALSO DEVOTED TIME TO USO, AND VISIT OF ICFTU'S  
VANDERVEKEN GAVE MUCH-NEEDED SHOT IN ARM TO BASQUE STV.  
FUTURE EXPECTED VISITS ARE GERMAN DGB VISIT IN MARCH OR  
APRIL, WHICH WILL PRIMARILY BENEFIT UGT, AND JUST-  
ANNOUNCED FIRST VISIT IN NEAR-FUTURE OF A BRITISH TUC  
DELEGATION (REF C). THE LATTER UNFORTUNATELY IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT  
COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS AND PCE LABOR  
LEADER MARCELINO CAMACHO (WHO WAS STAR ATTRACTION AT  
LONDON CONFERENCE ON SPAIN FEB 14). TO WHOM MANY TUC  
LEADERS ARE REPORTEDLY PARTIAL, RATHER THAN TUC'S FELLOW  
SPANISH SOCIALIST TRADE UNIONISTS IN UGT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 MADRID 272, 76 MADRID 798  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** saccheem  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 MAR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by saccheem>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** : FOREIGN FREE TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS CONTINUE TO VISIT SPAIN  
**TAGS:** ELAB, SP, FR, CFDT, (LODERER, EUGEN), (REBHAN, HERMAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006